

CLAIMS

We Claim:

- 5 1. A method for reducing the activity of an RNase, comprising:
- a) providing
- i) a preparation comprising at least one RNA polymer;
- ii) a sample containing an RNase; and
- 10 b) mixing said preparation with said sample under conditions such that the activity of said RNA binding enzyme is diminished relative to the activity of said RNase in the absence of said RNA polymer.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the activity of said RNase is diminished at least 25% relative to the activity of said RNase in the absence of said RNA polymer.
- 15 3. The method of Claim 1, wherein the activity of said RNase is diminished at least 50% relative to the activity of said RNase in the absence of said RNA polymer.
4. The method of Claim 1, wherein the activity of said RNase is diminished at least 75% relative to the activity of said RNase in the absence of said RNA polymer.
- 20 5. The method of Claim 1, wherein the activity of said RNase is diminished at least 90% relative to the activity of said RNase in the absence of said RNA polymer.
- 25 6. The method of claim 1, wherein said one or more RNA polymers are selected from the group consisting of: polyA:polyU; polyC:polyG; polyC:polyI; polyI; polyC; polyA; polyG; poly(GU); poly(CU); poly(GI) and poly(CI).
- 30 7. The method of Claim 1, wherein said one or more RNA polymers are affixed to a solid support.

8. The method of Claim 7, wherein said solid support is a resin.

9. The method of Claim 7, wherein said solid support comprises a plastic surface.

5 10. The method of Claim 1, wherein said RNase is selected from the group consisting of: RNase A, RNase H, RNase One, RNase B, RNase T₁, RNase T₂, RNase S, RNase from chicken liver, and RNase from *Aspergillus clavatus*.

10 11. The method of Claim 1, wherein said preparation further comprises a ribonuclease inhibitor.

12. The method of Claim 1, wherein said RNase is in a cell.

13. The method of Claim 12, wherein said cell is a tumor cell.

14. The method of Claim 1, wherein said RNase comprises angiogenin.

15. The method of Claim 11, wherein said ribonuclease inhibitor is RNASIN.

20 16. A method of selling an RNase inhibitor to a customer, comprising providing a kit containing at least one RNA polymer to a customer for the purpose of inhibiting an RNase.

25 17. The method of Claim 16, wherein said one or more RNA polymers are selected from the group consisting of: polyA:polyU; polyC:polyG; polyC:polyI; polyI; polyC; polyG; polyA; poly(GU); poly(CU); poly(GI) and poly(CI).

30 18. The method of Claim 16, wherein said kit further comprises RNASIN RNase inhibitor.

19. The method of Claim 16, wherein said kit further comprises a delivery system.

20. The method of Claim 19, wherein said delivery system comprises a solid support.

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21. The method of Claim 20, wherein said solid support is a resin.

22. The method of Claim 20, wherein said one or more RNA polymers are affixed to said solid support.

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23. The method of Claim 16, wherein said RNA polymer provided to said customer was obtained from RNA polymer batch, wherein prior to said providing said kit to said customer, at least a portion of said RNA polymer batch is tested in an RNase inhibition assay.

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